

Weekly National Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON: SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1853.

No. 429.

THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

EDITORS' CORRESPONDENCE.

WHEELING, (Spring House,) May, 1853. The route from Cumberland to Wheeling, over the far-famed Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, rather caused disappointment. The highly colored descriptions and grand pictures, representing horrid gulfs below, awful mountains above, with danger all around, had led me to expect a most exciting trip. Miles upon miles were passed over in the most uneventful manner. True, there are chasms to cross, hills to pass around, and mountains to go through; but the bridges were strong, the foundations all broad and deep, and the tunnels as safe as the open air. I did not see in the whole route from Cumberland to Wheeling any place like the one given in the *Illustrated News*, for instance, by an artist on the spot. Not one. Nor were any of those hanging rocks and suspended forest trees, which in these fancy sketches are so minutely drawn, to be found. The idea is out that the route of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is sublime, and thereupon artists, and poets, and tourists, who must have something grand to talk about, set to work and draw and imagine and describe things nowhere to be found. Yet the scenery is beautiful, rising often to the sublime.

The caution, attention, and care of the officers on this route cannot be too much praised. I am decidedly of the opinion that it is one of the safest roads in this country. The people of Maryland may complain of the enormous "unnecessary expenditures," but the travelling community will long live to rejoice at the solid and broad foundations of every part, and the complete appointments of the entire route.

At this place I took up quarters at the Spring House, a new hotel, embracing all the modern improvements, with old-fashioned substantial comfort. The furniture is neat and rich. It is an excellent house. The servants are well trained, quiet, and respectful. The McLean is also a good hotel. As I did not stay there, I can only speak from report.

Wheeling is a spirited place, full of enterprise and intelligence. When one remembers that the town contains only about fifteen thousand inhabitants, it seems wonderful that they should have done so much. Thousands of dollars are invested in manufactures, known every where for the perfection which has been reached. There is her railroad enterprise; there is the Wheeling bridge; there are magnificent hotels; and last, and most remarkable, the splendid *Union Line of Steamers*, built by Wheeling enterprise, and without which (as little as the Directors may think of it) the aspirations of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for the travel by the Ohio would end in failure. Baltimore does not know it, and she owes it to Wheeling. These boats are unsurpassed on any river in any country. They run regularly, leaving every day. The traveller proceeds directly from the cars to the steambot. The steambot waits upon the cars two hours, thus giving ample time in case of detention. The moment the passengers are safely on board, the boat leaves for the South, touching at all the intermediate landings. As I expect to go down in the "Baltimore," I will reserve a description of these floating palaces until then.

The view from the Wheeling suspension bridge is exceedingly beautiful. For miles down the Ohio a scene of blended sunlight and shade, valley and mountain, water and sky, enchant the eye. I was kindly shown over the bridge by one of the Managers. He took pride evidently (and justly too) in this most beautiful evidence of Wheeling trade and enterprise. There is a kind of Dutchman whose duty it is to keep the bridge in order, (painting the wires, &c.) This man is an old sailor, and his profession makes him peculiarly fitted for the climbing he has to do. It makes one dizzy to see a man clinging to the frail-looking wires. You feel the slightest tremor upon the bridge, and yet it is as strong as iron and its own great weight can make it. It is a favorite walk for citizens and strangers, many of whom were on it when we were there. Your readers have heard of the great Wheeling case—Pittsburg wishing to destroy this beautiful structure, on the plea that it interrupted navigation. I am sorry to report another "Wheeling bridge case," which seems to present more difficulties than the one lately before the country. It appears that there is a cow that insists on passing and re-passing over the bridge, pausing an unreasonable length of time to admire the scenery, giving way to loud bellowings, just to enjoy the echo, no doubt, which comes back from the hills. On leaving the bridge my friend was hailed by the Dane or Dutchman whose duty it is to paint the wires and keep his eyes on every thing—the cow among them. He informed the Manager that this cow would go on, and go on, and keep going on, in spite of all he could do. The conduct on the part of the cow which most enraged our worthy Dane was her bellowing—

"I never see such a cow in my life. Vat shall I do mit dat cow?"

"What shall you do with that cow?" replied the Manager, smiling at the Dane's excitement, "why, make her owner pay the regular toll whenever she goes on the bridge."

"She no got some bodine to her naben!" exclaimed the Dane, with a burst of feeling.

"Well, then, we must go up to the Supreme Court with it."

The Dane went off muttering, "It ish worse dan Pittsburg." You are, of course, aware of the ability of the "Press" of this city. No little credit is due the papers here for the manner in which they advocated the interests of the city and defended her rights.

Altogether Wheeling is a pleasant place—pleasant people, generous and kind. May they prosper!

C. G. BAYLOR.

BURNED HOUSE, CINCINNATI, MAY, 1853.

We left Wheeling with a full river, taking passage in the splendid steamer *Baltimore*, of the *Union Line*. This Union Line, as before stated, connects with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Wheeling, and, stopping at the intermediate landing returns from Louisville daily. The line is doing a smashing business, especially up stream, as they send a great many more passengers to the railroad at this season than the railroad does to them. I presume that in five to six years of the world presents a more beautiful appearance than the Ohio. Description is useless. The trip from Baltimore through Wheeling to Louisville is a pleasure trip. A safe road, fine hotels, clever people, splendid steamers, with a bright sky, reminds one more of a run on the Potomac or down to Old Point than of a fatiguing of a regular journey.

Cincinnati is ming rapid strides in industrial and commercial progress. There is the unmistakable mark of energy in every department of trade. Louisville must change her policy (compete successfully). As far as the

West is concerned, the masterly inactivity principle is exploded; and those who wish the trade of the West must encourage that principle either. A hint to the wise is sufficient.

The Burned House is certainly a most magnificent affair. Every thing is on the grandest scale, yet perfect in all the details of a well-kept hotel. Coleman is a prince of a fellow. The domestic wines of this city are justly entitled to the favor they have received from the public. Longworth's is most generally known, but there was a bottle opened for me of another brand which was equal to Longworth's. I have forgotten the name of the manufacturer. It was excellent. It has the flavor of the grape, (which I think is no objection,) and reminds you of the fresh wine one gets on the Rhine during vintage. I am told that Longworth realizes upwards of fifty thousand dollars a year clear profit on his wines. We all know that in those provinces of Europe where wine is consumed there are few drunkards; and I think if Ohio can cultivate the grape to such an extent as to put a pure and cheap article of wine in the reach of the limited means of the working classes that she will be establishing the best temperance society to be had. The cultivation of the grape is becoming daily of more importance in this State.

By a great number of handbills posted over the city I see the Abolitionists are at their old tricks again. I am glad to find the political atmosphere is more pure now than formerly. Abolitionism finds little countenance from the respectable citizens, but has its stronghold in what is called "Africa," out in "Texas," and along "Deer Creek."

The mammoth workshops of this city of labor are well calculated to inspire respect and admiration for industry. At some future day I may notice particularly the most extensive establishments.

The re-assessment of real estate is now going on under the late law. I was in the counting-room of one of the largest commercial houses here during the valuation of their house. They were rather alarmed at the high figure at which property was being placed. According to my understanding of the matter, the next publication officially of the statistics of this city will astonish the Cincinnatians themselves and the rest of mankind besides. The officers having charge of the work seemed to have a hungry look, and were evidently much excited with their occupation. The poor property-holders! Railroads and city councils are disturbing them everywhere at a fearful rate.

I rather think that the feeling and influence of this city is in favor of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, as against Wheeling and Baltimore. "Competition is the life of trade." There is nothing like "necessity" for bringing out the energies of a rich railroad company as well as the poor adventurer in life. "It is not good for a young man to have expectations," is an old saying; "it makes him idle." The rule applies to cities and communities. The most indefatigable and industrious get the advantage.

This afternoon we leave for Louisville, being still on board the *Baltimore*. I tried this morning to get some "vital" statistics in regard to the "hog crop," but failed. I learn, however, that the usual quantity of swine are growing to the usual size all over the State, and that the cry, "Hogs! hogs! hogs!" will again echo as loud as ever next November among the damask curtains and around the marble pillars of the Burned House.

It may not be amiss to inform distinguished politicians east of the mountains that buffalo do not roam wild on the eastern prairie, and that the Indians rarely give the people here any trouble.

C. G. BAYLOR.

INCREASE OF GOLD.

UNITED STATES MINT.—The Treasurer of the Mint has furnished the Philadelphia papers with a statement of the operations of that institution for the month of May, showing the whole coinage to have been \$5,780,346 30, divided as follows: Gold (including gold in bars) \$1,20,222; silver \$4,580,124; copper coinage \$9,120; the whole number of pieces coined \$4,869,786. The gold bullion from California deposited \$4,400,000; from other sources \$25,000. Silver bullion deposited \$1,447,000. The following are the items in detail of the gold and silver:

Gold Coinage for May, 1853.		
65,170 double eagles.....	\$1,303,400	00
18,535 eagles.....	185,350	00
39,345 half eagles.....	983,625	00
209,145 quarter eagles.....	522,862	50
644,161 gold dollars.....	644,161	00
907,739 pieces.....	2,235,506	00
In bars, April and May.....	2,296,716	11
Total gold.....	\$5,120,222	11
Silver.		
424,008 half dollars.....	\$212,004	00
1,196,000 quarter dollars.....	299,000	00
610,000 dimes.....	61,000	00
700,000 half dimes.....	35,000	00
3,956,777 pieces.....	5,736,226	11

The following is a comparative statement of the deposits at the Mint for the first five months of 1851, 1852, and 1853:

	1851.	1852.	1853.
January.....	\$5,071,569	\$4,161,688	\$4,902,697
February.....	5,004,970	5,010,222	5,548,323
March.....	2,858,271	3,892,126	7,537,732
April.....	2,878,353	3,691,637	4,766,000
May.....	3,269,491	4,355,578	4,435,000
Total.....	17,104,754	18,490,681	26,232,752

It will be observed that the deposits of every month this year exceeded those of the same month of last year, while the aggregate excess is nearly seven millions. The entire deposits last year were about \$51,000,000. At the ratio of the first five months the entire deposits of this year will be about \$51,000,000, showing a very large increase in the productiveness of our California possessions.

The shipments of specie to foreign countries during the month of May have been \$2,044,545. The entire shipments of specie to foreign countries during the month of May were \$2,044,545. Our receipts, therefore, from California since January last, exceed our exports to Europe by about nineteen millions of dollars!

DANCING AND MARRYING A SISTER'S DAUGHTER.—The Presbyterian General Assembly, (New School,) in session at Buffalo, has had under consideration two questions, which have attracted general interest: 1st. Is it consistent for a church-member to engage in promiscuous dancing? 2d. Is it allowable for a church-member to marry the daughter of his sister—his niece? The first question the Assembly answered promptly in the negative.

Dr. Cox, in reporting on the second question, thus presented the matter: The question, he said, was two-fold: "First, is it lawful for a church-member to marry the daughter of his sister? Second, after such marriage is contracted, can the person contracting it retain his standing in the church?" His conclusions were thus stated: "1st. That what is either lawful or positively forbidden may be a different matter, and often is a very different one from what is expedient."

"2d. No legislation by the church can bind the conscience of a man, and God does not forbid the relation."

"3d. Nearest of kin should always be preferably avoided."

"4th. That the proper liberty of individuals on the subject of marriage should be carefully guarded and established, as well as the violation of Divine laws sacredly prevented."

"5th. No forfeiture of church standing ought to result from the mere circumstance of the above relation."

The Assembly refused to sustain the views of the Rev. Doctor. The subject having been taken up on Tuesday, it was finally disposed of by the passage of a resolution, almost unanimously, declaring such a marriage contrary to the laws of God, and revolting to human nature.

MURDERERS REPRISSED.—We see by the Baltimore papers of last evening that the President yesterday reprimed, by telegraph, the two men who were to be executed at St. Louis for the murder of an Indian.

A NEW PROPELLING POWER.

It is the distinct character of our age that the most unifying efforts of men in the civilized world are directed towards the enlargement of the knowledge of surrounding nature, including that of our own mortal coil, and to subjugate her eternal forces to the commanding will of transient beings. The energies of the mind of the ancients being limited to very little knowledge of physical nature, were so much more directed towards the investigation of the qualities of the immortal part of man, and to the profound ancient thinkers man himself was the greatest of all wonders.

We greatly differ from the ancients in this respect, as also in that, that nothing is so small in our sublimity of mind as to be excluded from the closest observation and the most persevering investigations of scientific men.

It is the province of the press to let nothing escape unnoticed. Whatever may be worthy of development, and whatever concerns useful invention, the press offers to public consideration. By this means it has been shown how the type of former times have been converted into useful contrivances through the assistance of new discoveries. We therefore think it proper to mention that a patent has been lately secured here, and we understand in Europe also, by Mr. L. R. BREISACH, of New York, for invented machinery to produce and then to use water-power for propelling vessels.

We do not know to what extent this invention is already perfected, but, supposing from the patent that it is within the reach of possibility, we should be glad to see it brought within the sphere of practice; and although it may be doubted even by the inventor himself that it may never be perfected, it may nevertheless be that there is ample scope for its application under circumstances where steam or the propelling power of the wind can be used to less advantage. ***

A NEW MODE OF FIRING ARTILLERY.

The present is emphatically the age of invention, and particularly in the practical application of useful discoveries in all the arts and sciences.

Col. TALBOT, of the ordnance corps, in his reply to the inquiries propounded by the Secretary of War, in the year 1844, for information to be placed before the Committee of Claims in Congress, having under consideration the remuneration to be awarded to Joshua Shaw, Esq. for his invention and application of the percussion cap and water primer to the artillery service, remarks: "The superiority of that method over every other heretofore used is so decided that it cannot be dispensed with at this or any future time, unless indeed the research and ingenuity of man shall discover some new agent which shall be found as superior in the discharge of firearms to the percussion lock as that is to the flint lock."

We are glad to learn that this desideratum has been achieved by the persevering efforts of the same inventive genius, possessing decided advantages over his former method. This new method of discharging artillery is, we understand, a simple but very ingenious discovery, combining several requisites not heretofore obtained, namely, 1st, a primer truly water-proof, one that will bear submerging for hours without injury to its force or effect; 2d, a guard which protects the primer from being exploded until the signal is given; and, 3d, it furnishes the means for extracting a spike, whenever such a misfortune may befall the piece, with ease and certainty in one minute, and that without exploding the gun or incurring the slightest injury. 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